MAN 2 8 2002 SIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In research Application of

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

MAERTENS et al.

Filed: Herewith

Atty. Ref.: 2752-15

752-15 #16/E

Continuation Application of Serial No. 08/362,455

Group: 1633

Examiner: Martinell, J.

BP-07

For: NEW SEQUENCES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS

GENOTYPES AND THEIR USE AS

THERAPEUTIC AND DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS

August 15, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminarily amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows.

Claim 6, line 1, change "any of claims 1 to 5" to --Claim 1--.

Claim 7, line 1, change "any of claims 1 to 5" to --Claim 1--.

Claim 8, line 1, change "any of claims 1 to 7" to --Claim 1--,

lines 3 and 4, change "any of claims 1 to 5" to --Claim 1--;

lines 7 and 8, delete "of the primers according to claim 6 or any other"; and

lines 12 and 13, delete "according to claim 7, with" and insert --,--.

Claim 9, line 3, change "any of claims 1 to 5" to --Claim 1--.